

ROTHER VALLEY SOUTH – 2ND DECEMBER, 2002 ASSEMBLY OFFICER REPORT

YORKSHIRE FORWARD: REGIONAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY

The Regional Development Agency (Yorkshire Forward) has reviewed its Economic Strategy (RES) after three years.

The Strategy aims to improve the region's economic performance and provides the blueprint for the spending priorities of a range of public agencies, including Yorkshire Forward.

Jobs and skills form a fundamental part of the RES and the region has produced for the first time a 'Framework for Regional Employment and Skills Action' (FRESA). This seeks to match employer demand for skilled people to jobs more responsively and effectively. It replaces the previous Skills Action Plan and has been produced by a Regional Employment and Skills Forum. To ensure integration, the FRESA and RES contain the same objectives, priorities and words on employment and skills issues.

Copies of both documents have been received.

Yorkshire Forward claims to have taken notice of the views of the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly and to be consistent with the regional framework, Advancing Together, and Regional Planning Guidance. It also claims to "perform very highly against sustainable development objectives".

In this context it will need to demonstrate progress in job creation and in the reclamation and recycling for appropriate development of the two disused colliery sites in Rother Valley South, if it is to be judged a success.

Government approval of the revised documents is awaited but Yorkshire Forward has indicated that it is using these as working documents in its decision making.

For further information please contact:
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ROTHERHAM UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (UDP) REVIEW INITIAL ISSUES CONSULTATION

Following extensive consultation over several years the UDP was adopted in June 1999. It is now up for review following changes in Government policy towards development and local circumstances.

The Regeneration and Planning Service is seeking an input from the Assembly to the review process. To this end a summary booklet has been prepared which examines issues to be addressed. Copies will be available at the Assembly Meeting and can be viewed on www.rotherham.gov.uk/pages/ourtown.htm

The deadline for comments at this initial stage is 13th December, 2002.

COMMUNITY SKIPS

It now appears that there will be some surplus skip days arising from under subscription in other Assembly Areas. I have outstanding requests for skips at:-

Victoria Street/Leicester Road, Dinnington
East/South Terrace, Waleswood
Hooton Levitt
Todwick
Anston (Xmas Tree Shredder)

These have been sent to the Cleansing Service. Subject to Parishes being able to supervise sites there is a good chance that these requests and others arising can be met. Please submit additional requests with details of location and supervision arrangements as soon as possible.